



State of New Mexico
House of Representatives
Santa Fe

August 16, 2022

LUIS M. TERRAZAS

R - Doña Ana, Grant and Sierra
District 39

P.O. Box 197
Santa Clara, NM 88026
Phone: (575) 313-4262
E-mail: luis.terrazas@nmlegis.gov

COMMITTEES:

Enrolling & Engrossing -B
Health & Human Services
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Mr. Jerry Schoeppner
Director
Mining and Minerals Division
New Mexico Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department
1220 South St. Francis Drive
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87505

Dear Director Schoeppner:

I am writing to express my strong support for the proposed expansion of the Tyrone Mine for the Emma Project which is located in unincorporated Grant County, New Mexico and is approximately seven miles southwest of the Tyrone town site and five miles north of White Signal. This proposed project will include the development of a new open pit and two non-discharging waste rock stockpiles, construction of new haul roads, and installation of various infrastructure to support the overall project.

I strongly endorse this proposed project because mining jobs and the associated tax revenue are the backbone of the economy in Grant County. The Emma Project is also very important to extending the life of the Tyrone Mine and will help maintain these high-paying mining jobs that are essential to the long-term economic prosperity of southwestern New Mexico. Finally, the Emma Project will increase production of much needed domestic copper, which is in high demand for renewal energy and electrification.

It cannot be stressed enough how vitally important these mining jobs are to southwestern New Mexico as these jobs offer much needed opportunity to build a better life and generate hope for current and future generations. Thus, the expansion of the Tyrone Mine for the Emma Project will help countless families in terms of providing both direct and indirect jobs as the economic benefits of the project will have a positive effect throughout the entire community. This part of New Mexico needs these mining jobs and this project continues the long-time tradition of Grant County being recognized for its successful mining operations.

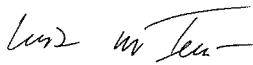
Equally important, Freeport-McMoRan has repeatedly demonstrated that the company takes environmental protection very seriously and does a first-rate job of reclaiming mined land. This long-standing record of environmental success by Freeport-McMoRan provides a high level of confidence the Emma Project will be operated with all relevant environmental safeguards being observed.

The mine permitting process requires applications and technical studies completed by various scientific disciplines. The State agencies are also skilled at reviewing the applications and evaluating the information according to New Mexico's strict environmental standards. I trust that this process has and will continue to work efficiently to produce plans that are protective of our water and other natural resources. Therefore, I encourage the Mining and Minerals Division to issue all needed permits for this proposed project as expeditiously as possible.

I would also respectfully request that these comments be included in the official record of the public hearing on the Emma project scheduled for Tuesday, August 16, 2022 at the Grant County Veteran's Memorial Business and Conference Center in Silver City.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Luis M. Terrazas". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a horizontal line extending from the end.

Luis M. Terrazas
State Representative District 39